



چهارمین کنفرانس ماهی‌شناسی ایران، ۳۰-۳۱ تیرماه ۱۳۹۵، دانشگاه فردوسی مشهد

The Forth Iranian Conference of Ichthyology, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, 20-21 July 2016

*Analysis of the environmental parameters affecting the distribution of the Loach *Paracobitis hicanica* in Zarin Gol-Iran*

Gholizadeh, M.

Faculty of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Gonbad Kavous University, Gonbad, Iran*Email:
Email: gholizade_mohammad@yahoo.com

*In order to have a sustainable exploitation and conservation of biodiversity of riverine ecosystems, which have been exposed to considerable modifications caused by anthropogenic activities, it is necessary to understand the habitat requirements of the species inhabiting these ecosystems. Zarin-Gol stream (N 36° 52', E 54° 57') in east of the Elburz Mountains is one of the environments inhabited by the native Angora loach, *Paracobitis hicanica*. This stream has been exposed to anthropogenic activities such as agriculture, fish culture and ecotourism. The variables including altitude, river width, flow rate and the size of the substrate material were determining factors for the presence of this species. Results showed that the altitude and river width are the most important independent variables affecting the presence of the species. Therefore, the anthropogenic activities being held in Zarin-Gol stream and bringing up the changes in river width, depth, substrate and the flow rate, can affect the presence and distribution of *Paracobitis malapterura* in the mentioned river.*

Keywords: *Paracobitis hicanica, Environmental parameters, Habitat requirements, Zarin-Gol stream.*

